(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the applications for Direct-to-Home services which are under Government's consideration?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Five applications have been received so far, of which, one has been given approval.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Names of applicants whose applications are under consideration are as under:-

1. Essal Shyam Communication Limited;
2. Space TV Private Limited;
3. Sun Direct TV Private Limited; and
4. NSTPL (Noida Software Technology Park Limited).

Obscenity Crime and Violence of TV Channels

3327. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the growing obscenity, crime and violence so often depicted/ displayed on the small screen through various channels, especially private ones, has seized Government's attention;

(b) if so, the number of cases booked against different channels during 2004 and 2005 so far; and

(c) what effective steps are taken to prevent and screen out such display and representation on TV having impact on the mind and psyche of the future generation and the people?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Government is constantly keeping a watch on content of television channels in India.

(b) During 2004, six channel and in 2005, six TV channels have been issued show cause notices for violation of the Programme Code. In 2004, transmission/retransmission of one channel "REN TV" was prohibited under Section 20 of the Cable Act for telecasting obscene content. In 2005, transmission/retransmission of one channel "Cine World" has been suspended for 30 days for violation of the Code.

(c) Programmes and advertisements of all satellite TV channels transmitted/retransmitted through the cable network are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Code prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder. Action for violation of the codes is taken from time to time.

The Government is considering setting up of an autonomous Authority to regulate content of TV channels.

DD Kendras in Tribal Districts

†3328. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has any proposal to open Doordarshan Kendras in Tribal districts of the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme for tribal districts of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that seventeen Doordarshan Kendras (Studio centres) including two in Chhattisgarh are presently functioning in tribal districts of the country. Additional studios are under implementation at two Doordarshan Kendras in tribal districts viz. Raipur (Chhattisgarh) and Ranchi (Jharkhand). There is no scheme to set up any Doordarshan Kendra in Madhya Pradesh.

Registration of publication in Tamil Nadu

3329. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.